

“The Spirit-filled Church”

New Hope Community Church

January 28th, 2018

Ephesians 5:15-21

*Therefore be careful how you walk,
not as unwise men but as wise!*

A. How to Walk Wisely in the Church

1. Be Holy Spirit filled (18)

- *The word indicates this is to be a **continual** filling*
- *Another way to express this is to be under His **control***

2. Avoid that which is wasteful

- *The word implies something that cannot be **recovered***

A. How to Identify A Spirit-filled Church

1. Spiritually refreshing relationships (19)

- *Spiritual **words** are powerful tools of encouragement*
- *Spirit led **music** unites people in the pursuit of Christ*

2. Continually thankful attitudes (20)

- *The spirit of thanksgiving is to **dominate** church life!*
- *‘In the name of the Lord’ should **adorn** everything in our life*

3. Mutually submissive hearts (21)

- *We humbly **serve** one another (Jn 13:1-17 / Mk 10:42-45)*
- *We willingly **listen** to one another (Ja 1:19 / Eph 5:19)*
- *We earnestly **honor** one another (Ro 12:10 / Phil 2:3,4)*

*Jesus prayed: “I ask . . . that they may all be one;
even as You, Father, are in Me and I in You,
that they also may be in Us,
so that the world may believe that You sent Me.”*

Jn 17:21

Life Group Meeting

Ephesians 5:15-21

QUESTIONS

- 1) *Read Ephesians 5:15-21*
- 2) *God’s plan is for us to be ‘continually filled’ with the Holy Spirit, for Him to be in control of our lives moment by moment. Is this really possible, and if so, how?*
- 3) *Read John 7:38,39. Do you feel you have experienced this in your life, and if so, can you share some examples.*
- 4) *The idea behind the contrast presented with drunkenness is that we are to avoid that which is wasteful and unable to be recovered. How can being Spirit -filled help a church avoid that which is wasteful and unable to be recovered? Speak in specific terms.*
- 5) *How important has the Spirit-filled activity described in verse 19 been to you in the development of spiritually refreshing relationships in your church experience?*
- 6) *Why are the words ‘in the name of the Lord’ perhaps the key to the whole command to ‘always give thanks for all things’? How is this really possible to do?*
- 7) *What does ‘mutual submission’ look like in a church when two people, or two groups of people strongly disagree on something? How do you practically work this out and maintain unity?*
- 8) *Pray together that New Hope will be a unified, Spirit-filled church!*